

VOICE OVER: 4.26.12

URBAN AND STORM WATER RUNOFF ARE MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO WATER POLLUTION.

THEY CARRY DIRTY WATER, CHEMICALS, TRASH AND MORE TO LOCAL WATERWAYS LIKE RIVERS, LAKES, STREAMS AND THE OCEAN.

WHAT WE DO AT OUR HOMES CAN PROBLEMS – LIKE WHEN WE WASH OUR CARS.

THE SOAPY SUDS DO THEIR CLEANING JOB BUT DURING THE RINSE– THE SUDS CAN JOIN A POLLUTED MIX OF GRIME, METALS, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, AND CHEMICALS THAT FLOW INTO THE STREET, DOWN THE DRAIN, AND INTO WATERWAYS.

IT'S BEST TO TAKE A CAR TO COMMERCIAL LOCATION WHERE WATER CAN FLOW DOWN A DRAIN THAT LEADS TO A TREATMENT PLANT THAT CAN CLEAN THE WATER BEFORE IT'S RELEASED.

WATERING GARDENS AND LAWNS CAN CAUSE WATER POLLUTION, TOO.

WHEN SPRINKLERS RUN TOO LONG OR SPRAY TOO FAR, THE EXTRA WATER CAN CARRY POLLUTANTS LIKE FERTILIZERS AND ANIMAL WASTE INTO THE DRAIN.

SPRINKLERS SHOULD BE ADJUSTED SO THAT THEY WORK PROPERLY.

HOSING OFF SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PAVEMENT CAN ALSO CAUSE WATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF WHAT THE WATER PICKS UP ALONG ITS WAY TO THE DRAIN.

A BROOM IS A BETTER CHOICE FOR CLEAN UP.

AT WORK PLACES -- LIKE CONSTRUCTION SITES, AND HIGHWAY PROJECTS LAWS REQUIRE THAT THE WATER BE MANAGED SO THAT POLLUTION BE PREVENTED FROM FLOWING OFF THE PROPERTY AND INTO NEARBY WATERWAYS LIKE STREAMS, RIVERS, LAKES AND THE OCEAN.

THAT'S WHY THE STATE WATER BOARD, NINE REGIONAL WATER BOARDS, AND THE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY HAVE CREATED AND ADOPTED SPECIAL PERMITS TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF POLLUTANTS TO RUN INTO WATERWAYS.

THE PERMITS APPLY TO CITIES AND OTHERS THAT OPERATE SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE STORM WATER SYSTEMS...

AND TO THOSE WHO ARE INVOLVED IN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES..., INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION SITES THAT DISTURB MORE THAN AN ACRE OF LAND.

THE STATE WATER BOARD AND THE NINE REGIONAL WATER BOARDS ALSO SUPPORT projects that INCLUDE DESIGNS TO CAPTURE WATER WHERE IT FALLS.

EXAMPLES INCLUDE USING TREES AND GRASS NEAR SIDEWALKS AND ROADS ...SO THAT THE WATER SOAKS INTO THE GROUND, NOURISHES LIVING THINGS AND DECREASES THE AMOUNT OF RUNOFF, AT THE SAME TIME.

THESE SO-CALLED LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT IDEAS BENEFIT BUSINESS DISTRICTS AND COMMUNITY NEIGHBORHOODS BY USING WATER WISELY...

AND BY REPLENISHING GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES, TOO.

PROTECTING CALIFORNIA'S WATERWAYS FROM STORMWATER RUNOFF POLLUTION IS A CONTINUING COMMITMENT FROM CALIFORNIA'S STATE AND REGIONAL WATER BOARDS...WHICH WORK HARD TO ENSURE CALIFORNIA'S WATER IS AS CLEAN AS POSSIBLE.